

What's new at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.

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Newsletter #71:

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Hello all! I hope you all had a great week. This upcoming week will see the Lanz auction in Munich, Germany and across the globe the Goldberg auction and Long Beach Show in sunny California. With the power of the internet we can be at both auctions! There are other interesting esales taking place as well this week. See below for more information:

Dutch Numismatic Auction 1 (June 10)

I mentioned this last week but it is worth mentioning again since it will happen this weekend. The DNA is holding their first auction on June 10th with 500 lots of ancient coins. I was informed of this auction by one of the Dutch firms. It is nice to see a new auction forum from the Netherlands. There is a rather large section of Roman imperial coins that might be interesting for some. Please get in touch if you need my assistance.

Lanz Auction 166 (June 11)

Dr. Hubert Lanz has a live auction taking place on June 11th in Munich. The catalog is small in comparison with other sales being only 326 lots but there are some interesting pieces within and worth taking a look. There is a good Greek and Roman section and an interesting selection of religious medallions at the end of the auction. This auction can be viewed on Sixbid or Numisbids. Please let me know if you need my assistance.

Goldberg Auctions (Pre-Long Beach Show, June 10-13)

The Goldberg's are having their pre-long Beach Show auctions on June 10-13. The ancients and world portion of the auction will take place on Tuesday, June 12 at 10 a.m. (PST). There are hundreds of coins being auctioned off over the course of the 3 days. The ancients portion is 416 coins with some very attractive pieces. The Long Beach Show

follows the Goldberg auctions from June 14-16. If you've never been it is a nice show that is worth a visit if you are near LA. Many ancient dealers try to attend and walk the show and some are set up. If you want to see the dealer list here is a link:

<http://www.longbeachexpo.com/dealers/list>

Dix Noonan Web (June 12-14)

DNW has a massive auction of 2,340 British hammered coinage, Irish, Scottish, Anglo-Gallic and even ancient coins. The auction doesn't go in traditional order with the ancient coins going first so they are somewhat hidden within the sale. They are there though as well as several group lots to choose from. What I found fascinating was a rather large section of tickets and passes to exhibitions and events from London in the 1800's. Pretty cool stuff...

CNG EAuction 422 (June 13)

The bi-monthly eauction for CNG closes on June 13 with 776 coins. As always there is a good mixture of ancients and world included in the auction. It certainly is worth taking a look. I'm happy to help for this auction as I regularly bid.

Visiting Coin Cabinets and Museums

Over the summer there is a lot less activity than from Fall through Spring in the coin community. A lot of dealers and collectors take vacations and many people simply wait for the Fall auction previews to come out. With this in mind consider visiting a museum and viewing their collections or maybe if possible get into the back rooms to view their coin cabinets. I mention this because I recently discussed the British Museum coin cabinet with a customer who had never visited before. You have to make an appointment and you might not get in right away but once you are in it is an experience that is enjoyable for any coin enthusiast. The first time I was in there I felt like a kid in a candy store. I remember viewing all the Syracuse dekadrachms and Athenian coins the first time. Many coins were donated in the early 1900's and you get to see what real "cabinet toning" looks like. It also is an education on style for the various types. You won't be an expert after one visit but it certainly helps to make the buying experience more meaningful. So you might not be visiting London this summer? Other great coin cabinets include the Gulbenkian in Lisbon (the best display of coins I have ever seen, although I haven't visited every coin cabinet). In the U.S. you can visit the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. A fabulous collection of coins and of course we can't forget the American Numismatic Society. Become a member and visit their building in NYC. An amazing collection of coins, as well as a superb library. Check where you live. You might be surprised or perhaps disappointed at what your local museum has



Coin of the Week

<https://www.shannaschmidt.com/greek-coins/gk1205?rq=gk1205>

CRETE. Gortyna. c. 300 BC

AR Stater, 11.82g (21mm, 2h). The nymph Europa in a tree with her head in her hand / A bull standing right, his head is reverted.

Pedigree: From the Phaistos Hoard 1953 (IGCH 152). Purchased privately from the stock of Münzen und Medaillen AG, Basel on Dec 9, 2000

Price: \$2,750

The coinage of Crete is both visually arresting and barbaric in nature. One will see artistic imagery ranging from the famous labyrinth to the Cretan bull. The artistic style is a marked departure from that of classical Greek coinage that was found contemporarily in other cities at that time. Despite the barbarous style, the coins fascinate and delight collectors. Coins from Crete are increasingly difficult to obtain due to very strict cultural property restrictions both in exporting out of Crete and importing into the U.S. This coin was out of the country long before the restrictions went into effect and comes from a well known hoard found in 1953 on Phaistos.

The imagery on this coin is extremely interesting. It portrays the nymph Europa who had an affair with Zeus allegedly in the city of Gortyna. In fact, the name Europe is derived from the nymph Europa and it has been suggested that European civilization was established on the island of Crete. Gortyna was even mentioned in the Odyssey when Menelaus and his army on their return home from Troy were blown off course and landed on the Gortyna shoreline.

References: Svoronos, Crete 166, 67. Le Rider, Crete 26, 133, pl. V, 14 (this coin)

Grade: A complete example as compared with others. These coins normally come in weathered condition. Overall wear but extremely pleasant. Good centering and nice strike for issue. EF for issue

gk1205

<https://www.shannaschmidt.com/greek-coins/gk1205?rq=gk1205>

If you are interested in this coin please click the link above or email me at shanna@shannaschmidt.com

Until next week!
Shanna

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